

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ORCHID SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
FOUNDED 1946. A MEMBER OF THE AUSTRALIAN ORCHID COUNCIL.

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AUGUST 2016

NEXT MEETING of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held at the **Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning**, on **Friday 26 August, 2016**, commencing at **7:30 pm**.

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THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:

IMPORTING ORCHIDS

DR AARON MAXWELL
(BIOSECURITY FACILITY, PERTH AIRPORT)

SEPTEMBER MEETING DATES:

OSWA Committee 7:30 pm Friday 2nd

General Meeting 7:30 pm Friday 23rd

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Birthdays

August: 19th Judith Keogh, 30th Kirsty Bayliss, 31st Lynn Brooks

September: 6th Alan Prosser, 14th Bob Longmore

Best wishes to anyone else celebrating Birthdays or Anniversaries. To any member on the sick list we wish you a speedy recovery & may you soon be well.

Plant Sales at General Meetings

Anyone selling plants at general meetings must fill in plant sales slips and attach them to the plants so that the staff at the Sales Table know who the plants belong to.

Also, please note that the Sales Table will only be operating during the supper break.

Inter-Society Workshop and Display (Busselton, 6-7 August 2016)

The Inter-Society Workshop and Display at Busselton was a big success and enjoyed by all who attended. Ten OSWA members made the trek to Busselton with plants for the competition and display. We had a relatively small number of orchids in the show this year, but quality was high and OSWA came equal second in the plant competition. Trevor and Barbara Burnett organised entertainment at the dinner on Saturday night. A big thank you goes to Rick Winch, Lyn Harwood, and their team of helpers at the Bunbury Orchid Society for organising this great event.

Kardinya Spring Show

Set up is on Tuesday 30th August from about 5:00 pm, with judging to start at around 7:30 pm. Open to the public from Wednesday 31st August until Saturday 3rd September, with plant sales daily. Please consider helping out by bringing in orchids for judging in the show or even just for the display. Helpers to watch over the orchids and the sales table and to chat to members of the public will be much appreciated, and a roster will be available to add your name to at the August general meeting.

OSWA 70th Anniversary Dinner

This event will be held at Belmont Tavern on the evening of Saturday, 10 September 2016. A limited number of places are still available. Anyone wishing to attend should arrange for payment (\$40 per person) to Kirsty Bayliss as soon as possible.

South West Orchid & Garden Expo

OSWA members may be interested in this event, which includes Bunbury Orchid Society's Spring Show, and demonstrations and stalls about cacti, bonsai, herbs and other flora. Venue is the South West Italian Club, White Street, East Bunbury, on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th September, 9.00am to 4.00pm. (Please be aware that Sat 3rd coincides with OSWA's Spring Show.)

Potting Workshop: Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre

The workshop will be held on Sunday 23rd October, 10.00am until 4.00pm. Plants will be potted, there will be sales of orchids and orchid-related paraphernalia, there will be talks, a display, scones and other snacks. Speakers & helpers needed. Contact Kaye if you re willing to give a short talk on the day. This is an excellent event for anyone wishing to learn more about potting and other aspects of orchid culture (and members get in for free!).

Royal Show

Unfortunately OSWA will not be putting on a display at the Perth Royal Show this year. Rather than having the orchid display in the usual hall with the district displays, this year the Show organisers required the orchid display to be held in a marquee, which is not suitable for display of orchids over an extended period.

September General Meeting

Since we have no commitments at the Royal Show this year, the September GM will be held on the 4th Friday (23rd September), and not on the 3rd Friday (as advertised previously on the OSWA web page).

Redundant Printer

OSWA has a Samsung CLP550 colour laser printer that is surplus to requirements. The printer worked the last time it was tested, but it is quite old, quite bulky, and out of toner, and toner cartridges are hard to find. Anyone interested in taking the printer, please contact Murray Baker.

Orchids for Sale

Jean & John Wells contacted the Society to let us know that they have approximately 30 plants for sale. Contact them on 9337 9063 for more details.

Orchid Books free to good home

Three old orchid books have been offered: *Home Orchid Growing* by Rececca Tyson Northen (1950), *Orchids and How to Grow Them* by Adelaide C Willoughby (1950) and *Orchids in Australia* by Fred Moulen (1958). From the titles, the books sound like they would be most suitable for new growers. Old orchid books often have interesting ideas that have been forgotten about and are well worth a read. The books are in good condition. Contact Murray if you would like any of these books.

PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2016) by Trevor Burnett.

The plants have expended considerable energy in producing and supporting flowers. The early variety flowers will now be coming to an end. It is time now to look towards the task of repotting and replacement of the growing medium for reasons such as:

- a) the plant has grown too large for the existing container;
- b) the potting material has broken down and must be replaced;
- c) the plant has naturally divided into two pieces;
- d) you have purchased plants (from various sources and therefore in various different media) in flower through the flowering season.

Paphiopedilums are repotted in a variety of growing media that are generally based on bark or wood chips. Most plants require repotting every 2nd year for larger pots or more often if in smaller pots. Small plants respond to repotting more frequently with increased growth. The watering habit of the grower will influence mix selection. If you are a compulsive user of water and have difficulty in withholding watering, then you will need a more open mix to allow for plants to dry out a little between watering. On the other hand, someone who is sparing with watering or is away from home for a period, may require a finer mix that is able to retain water longer. A finer mix can be obtained by using the basic bark mix and adding some sphagnum moss to the mix.

My programme comes back to 10 days between watering. My general mix is:

- 4 parts clean bark
- 1 part charcoal
- 1 part polystyrene or perlite

Text books recommend growing the plants in small pots, but I personally do not like bonsai, so I grow my plants in larger pots (130mm or 140mm) and get good results. I believe you obtain larger growths which at the end of the season result in larger and stronger flowers. I also make a habit of repotting any new orchids purchased, swapped etc. into my own medium as soon as possible. A lot of the time members purchase plants from many sources and leave them in existing mix as the mix looks fine. This is a trap, as your watering and fertilizing programme is developed for your mix and conditions. It is extremely hard to manage when you have a variety of mixes in varying degrees of decomposition.

CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2016) by Roy Brown

Time is running towards the Spring months, and this means more and more of our Cymbidiums will be opening their flower buds, so see to it the racemes are staked properly and securely. Some varieties need no staking as they have thick, upright stems that are self-supporting, but others will need to be tied to stakes. When doing this, place the stake as near to the flower stem as possible. Tie the stem firmly, but not too tightly as it will continue to lengthen and must not be hindered in its growth.

If the raceme has grown a bit wayward and needs to be pulled back to vertical, this needs to be done gently, and may need to be done in stages, a little each day, to prevent snapping the stem. It is best to do this late in the day, when the stem is most flexible.

If you intend to exhibit the plant in any of the societies' orchid shows, then do not allow the stake to be higher than the flower stem.

Repotting should now be in full swing. As the early plants finish flowering, a start can be made on dividing and repotting these. This will give the plant the benefit of a full year's growth in the pot, and should enable the plant to make up its new bulbs in time to produce its early flowers again next season.

Any plants that are not going to flower this season can also be repotted. This will allow you more time later on in September to repot, as their turn comes, plants that are now in spike.

Keep watch for any insect pests, just one slug, snail or caterpillar can ruin the whole spike and your whole 12 months effort. Baysol is the best remedy for slugs and snails.

CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2016) from notes of the late Henry Eaton.

We are now coming into the blooming season where the last of your plants will complete their annual flowering. To present the flowers well, make sure the pseudo bulbs are tied vertically and the emerging buds face towards the main source of light.

Be careful with watering, as water remaining on the flowers at nightfall may lead to spotting with *Botrytis* fungus, ruining your display. To avoid flower spotting, water the orchids early in the morning on a bright day, so they can dry off by nightfall. If there are any bud sheaths that hold water, peel them open or remove them altogether. Alternatively, the sheaths can be left in place to provide additional support to the flower stem, and a sterile cutting tool can be used to carefully cut a small hole near the base of the sheath to allow any water to drain out. Good luck with your efforts.

This is also the time to think of repotting. Gather together the pots and potting mix you will require. Your choice of mix should be based on the time you can spare to thoroughly water your plants, thinking especially of summer when it is hot and you would rather stay inside than out.

Also think in terms of how long you would like to go between potting. The finer the mix, the faster it tends to break down, and this means more frequent potting. Also, smaller plants will need a finer mix than adult flowering ones. Finer mix also holds more water and less air between the particles. Repot as soon as you see new roots appearing from the pseudo bulbs and before they get longer than 2-3 cm. If the new roots are allowed to get too long, there is increased risk of damaging them during repotting.

Minutes of the General Meeting of The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.) held in the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on 26 July 2016

(Recorded by R McGrath)

Welcome: President Mrs Kaye Baylis opened the meeting at 7.38 pm welcoming visitors, members.

Apologies: As per register.

Meeting Item: Trevor & Barbara Burnett – Seedpod to Flask – a very informative talk with the emphasis on all tools & equipment being sterile.

Break for tea and popular vote.

Minutes: Moved P Kissell, seconded R Pohl that the Minutes of the previous meeting (June) be accepted. **Carried.**

Business arising:

- Tropical Colours visit Saturday 13th August. Bus to leave Manning SC centre at 9.30am
- Winter Show: Kaye thanked all those who entered plants, those who assisted in the set up & during the Show – without all those members helping it would not have been such a success. Thanks to those Members who put up advertisements in shopping centres, etc.

Confirmation: Moved J Walton, seconded L Brooks that business arising has been resolved. **Carried**

Correspondence:

- AOC BOM Agenda, Reports, etc (*and passing of Stephanie Clarke*)
- National Library of Australia, re electronic deposition of OSWA bulletin
- from Robert Boyd, re Nalder Trophy
- Garden City Plastics (invoices) new Invoice has been received by OSWA. Those who ordered bark need to contact Kaye to arrange for pick up.
- Garden Clubs of Australia Photographic Competition. Closing date 14th Oct.
- AOC – Association Liability Insurance
- WAROO – notes of the June Meeting re ISD&W & Dinner menu
- Neutrog re June talk by Brian Klepzig – a very informative & interesting talk. Murray has thanked him by email.
- Trailer Licence
- Alyce Woodrow, Stocklands Riverton, re photos of the Autumn Show
- Tony Watkinson, notice of orchid auction in Kingsley on 21/8/2016
- New Member applications – Kevin & Anne Ewing, Ann Lam

- Responses to email enquiries from members of the public about where to obtain orchids, show and meeting dates, etc.
- Received: Society Bulletins and junk mail.

Business arising:

- Sincere sympathy is extended to Stephanie Clarke's family, NDOS & the AOC
- New member Applications to be processed at the Committee Meeting
- GCA Photographic Competition details to go in the August Bulletin

Confirmation: Moved L Brooks, seconded E Burgess that Correspondence be endorsed. **Carried.**

Financial Statement: prepared by K Bayliss

Confirmation: Moved J Walton, seconded P Kissell, that the Financial Statement and Accounts for Payment endorsed. Carried.

New Members: Angela Measday (Seville Grove), Kevin and Anne Ewing (Salter Point), and Ann Lam (Waterford)

General Business:

- Spring Show, Kardinya – Set up 30th August Show Wednesday 31st August to 3rd September Roster, Show schedules, Entry Cards & Sales Sheets are available at the front table
- Orchid Display & Workshop 6 & 7 August – Plants needed Contact Kaye 93376210
- Jean & John Wells 9337 9063 have approx. 30 plants for sale
- Keep Saturday 10/9/16 clear, for OSWA's 70th anniversary celebrations. Names to go on the list if want to attend Dinner at Belmont Tavern Please pay \$40pp as soon as possible
- OSWA Jackets are available for ordering, including the sleeveless one.

Raffle: Merril Brechin, Peter Kissell, Edna Burgess, Ryan Ainsworth, Malcolm Davis, Jack Krishnan.

Many thanks to those who brought in extra plants for the Raffle

Popular Vote:

Open: *Odontocidium* Tiger Crow "Golden Girl" owner Rosemary McGrath

Novice: Blc Pastoral Innocence owners Malcolm & Ann Davis

Badge Prize: Raye McIntosh

Meeting Closed at 9.35pm

MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (July 2016)**OPEN**

3D	(3)	1	P Kissell	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Baroness Byford 'Betty'
		2	P Kissell	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> TB Kaitlin's Dance
		3	P Kissell	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> TB Butterscotch
6C	(1)	1	C Rogasch	<i>Oncidium</i> Gower Ramsey 'Orange'
6D	(1)	1	R McGrath	<i>Odontocidium</i> Tiger Crow 'Golden Girl'
11B	(2)	1	C Rogasch	<i>Zygoneria</i> Freestyle Meadows
		2	R Dalziel	<i>Zygoneria</i> Zest 'Tyabb'

NOVICE

15B	(1)	1	A & M Davis	<i>Brassolaeliocattleya</i> Pastoral Innocence
17C	(1)	1	R Pohl	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Henirettan Fuji Wara

POPULAR VOTE

OPEN: R McGrath *Odontocidium* Tiger Crow 'Golden Girl'
 NOVICE: A & M Davis *Brassolaeliocattleya* Pastoral Innocence

SCHOKMAN TROPHY A & M Davis *Brassolaeliocattleya* Pastoral Innocence (72 points)
 (Laelinae)

Our next bulk order of Neutrog products

Order forms will be available at the August General Meeting. Anyone who can't attend the August Meeting should contact Rosemary at rosemary.mcgrath71@gmail.com or on 0401508667 to obtain an order form. Payment & completed forms should be sent to Kirsty Bayliss by 24th September. Anticipated delivery date is 15th October. Purchases will be available for collection after that date.

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